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That ought to be done immediately. *It did not need war to protect a nation's rights.* The mere assertion of those rights, the due regard for them, the expenditure of money there, the storing of coal there, the calling of vessels there, all these things were assertions of power, far more influential than protocols and diplomatic correspondence.

Mr. George—The amendments do not menace war, do they?

Mr. Sherman—*I do not think it necessary to menace any one.* I believe that a straight-forward, manly negotiation should be entered into between these three great Powers. It would be a shame and disgrace to our civilization and Christianity if we should not agree upon some mode of Government for those islands. Whatever the newspapers may say, *there is nothing in the situation that would justify, on the part of either nation, a breach of the peace* until every effort is exhausted to bring about a peaceful and quiet settlement of the controversy. First, we want to assert and maintain our right to a station at Pago Pago, and nobody will call that right in question. Next, we ought to do what we promised to do, employ our good offices to settle the difficulties of this people. Therefore, I am willing to vote any sum of money to enable the President to conduct negotiations, to make surveys of the harbors and to get better information in relation to those islands. I am willing to vote the sum named in the amendments (\$500,000), and place it at the discretion of Mr. Cleveland or Mr. Harrison; and I have no doubt that the power thus given to send agents there and to send ships there will bring about a prompt solution of this small controversy.

#### POWERFUL SECRET ORDERS.

In the United States there are over 200 fraternal, benevolent, social, insurance, political, religious, temperance and other secret orders. Following is the official membership of some of the more prominent American organizations: Freemasons, 600,000; Odd Fellows, 530,000; Grand Army of the Republic, 380,000; Knights of Pythias, 210,000; Good Templars, 200,962; Ancient Order of United Workmen, 191,876; Knights of Honor, 124,756; the Royal Arcanum, 80,000; Improved Order of Red Men, 64,000; American Legion of Honor, 61,664; Knights and Ladies of Honor, 49,200; Sons of Veterans, 47,000; Ancient Order of Foresters, 38,539; Daughters of Rebekah, 33,858; Knights of the Golden Eagle, 60,000, and Order of Chosen Friends, 29,271. The total number of Masons in the world is estimated at 4,000,000. The total number of Druids in the world is 67,000.—*New York Telegram.*

#### TESTIMONY OF GREAT WARRIORS.

It may be thought that war can be carried on without dishonorable and cruel practices, but some of the greatest warriors—men who have had a peculiarly good opportunity to know what war really depends on for success—speak very differently.

The Duke of Wellington says, "Men who have nice notions of religion, have no business to be soldiers."

Sir Charles Napier, "To overcome all feelings of religion is generally the means of making a warrior."

Marchiand, "War is a profession by which man cannot live honorably; an employment by which the soldier, if he would reap any profit, is *obliged* to be false, rapacious, and cruel."

Napoleon, "War is the business of barbarians."  
General Sherman, "It is cruelty, and *you can not refine it.*"

#### REVEALMENTS.

BY JAMES BUCKHAM.

Not in whirlwind, nor in torrent,  
Speaks God's voice with surest power,  
But in silent, sweet unfoldings,  
Like the beauty of a flower.

In the golden depths of sunset,  
In the green and dewy sod,  
In the brook that babbles seaward,  
We behold the thoughts of God.

Not by power's display He wins us,  
Riven cloud and thunder-peal,  
But He draws us by His goodness,  
As the magnet draws the steel.

Who can measure His compassion?  
It is like yon blue above,  
Bending o'er us, sinful, sinning,  
Its unpillared arch of love.

It is like fond Nature's pity  
For the feeblest, frailest things.  
How with thorns she guards the roses!  
How she shields the insect's wings!

Helpless we as bowing rushes  
In the fierce December blast;  
But the arm that girds creation  
Is the arm that holds us fast.

Oh to read that wondrous lesson,  
Writ in every flower and star;  
There's an Unseen Power that loves us,  
Weak and wandering though we are!

—*Congregationalist.*

#### THE DAY AFTER THE BATTLE OF FREDERICKSBURG.

I handed a soldier a bit of food. "Thank you, ma'am," he said; "I don't think I'll ever eat again; for I'm shot in the stomach. But I'd like a drink of water if you ain't too busy."

I rushed away, but the water-pails were gone to be refilled, and it was some time before they reappeared. I did not forget my wounded man meanwhile, and, with the first mugful, hurried back to him. He seemed asleep, but something in the tired white face caused me to listen at his lips for a breath. None came. I touched his forehead: it was cold; and then I knew that, while he waited, a better nurse than I had given him a cooler draught, and healed him with a touch. I laid the sheet over the quiet sleeper whom no noise could now disturb, and half an hour later the bed was empty.—*Louisa M. Alcott.*

#### A BEDSIDE PRAYER.

These beautiful lines were found among the papers of one whose years were spent in loving devotion to his Master's cause.

The day is ended; ere I sink to rest,  
My weary spirit seeks repose in Thine;  
Father, forgive my trespasses, and keep  
This little life of mine.

With loving kindness curtain Thou my bed,  
And cool in rest my burning pilgrim feet;  
Thy pardon be the pillow for my head,  
So shall my sleep be sweet.

At peace with all the world, dear Lord, and Thee,  
No fears my soul's unwavering faith can shake.  
All's well, whichever side the grave, for me,  
The morning light may break.